

**Lt Col (Dr.) William Baez**, USAF, Dental Corps, was promoted on May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014, to the rank of Colonel on MacDill AFB, Tampa, Florida. Major General Robert Catalanotti, Director of Exercises and Training, US Central Command, a friend to the Baez family, presided over the promotion ceremony and administered the oath of office. Colonel Baez was accompanied by his wife, Marianela, daughter Gabriela, and his parents, Dr Ramon and Mrs Martha Baez.



Colonel William Baez is the Commander, 6th Dental Squadron, MacDill Air Force Base, Florida. As the Commander, Colonel Baez is responsible for providing top quality restorative and preventive oral health care to the 6th Mobility Wing and its mission partners. Colonel Baez ensures the worldwide deployment readiness for 3,900 active duty Airmen and 4,000 Marines, Soldiers, and Sailors from the 6th Air Mobility Wing and two combatant commands stationed at MacDill AFB. Colonel Baez interfaces with command, wing, group, and squadron leaders on dental matters and manages a \$500,000 annual dental squadron budget which supports the delivery of over \$7.5 Million of dental health care services. Colonel Baez also oversees the Air Force dental hygienist degree program at St. Petersburg College as well as the training partnerships for dental assisting with Sanford Brown College and Concord Career Institute.

Colonel Baez entered active duty as a direct accession at the end of his senior year at the University of Texas Health Science Center Dental School, San Antonio, Texas. He completed a Bachelors of Science Degree in Biology from UTSA and is a graduate of Boerne High School. He is a Fellow, Academy of General Dentistry; Fellow, Academy of Dentistry International; and Board Certified in the Academy of General Dentistry.

His interest and accomplishments in information management and information technology, along with his involvement with the AF Dental Service Digital Dental Radiology System led to his selection for special assignment at the Air Force Surgeon General's Office of the Chief Information Officer as the dental subject matter expert and culminated in his selection as the Air Force Surgeon General's Consultant for Dental Informatics. Colonel Baez's home town is Boerne, Texas; which is where his parents still live today.